

PECANS

NEW MEXICO: The State's 1999 pecan crop is expected to reach 50 million pounds, 18 million pounds greater than last year's reduced crop. If realized, this would be a record production. The crop is in generally good condition as of the first of the month.

UNITED STATES: The December forecast for 1999 pecan production is 324 million pounds, unchanged from October. This compares to last year's 146 million pounds. Pecans, known for their alternate bearing pattern, were expected to yield a large 1999 crop. However, dry weather has limited overall quantity as well as quality. Improved varieties are expected to account for 228 million pounds of the total while native and seedling varieties are projected to make up the difference of 95.7 million pounds. The Georgia's portion, at 90.0 million pounds, is down 10.0 million from the October forecast. The lack of rain has seriously affected quality in non-irrigated orchards while irrigated groves are generally producing better quality nuts. The Texas forecast has also been lowered 10.0 million pounds to 80.0 million. The colder temperatures pushed harvest progress pass the halfway mark. Dry conditions and insect damage are limiting factors.

Pecans: Utilized Production 1997-98 and Forecasted December 1, 1999			
Crop and State	Utilized Production		
	1997	1998	1999
	-----1,000 Pounds-----		
IMPROVED VARIETIES^{1/}			
AL	7,000	3,500	8,000
AZ	18,500	13,000	19,000
AR ^{2/}	1,200	300	760
CA ^{2/}	3,000	1,700	2,300
FL ^{2/}	600	200	1,500
GA	77,000	35,000	80,000
LA	2,000	3,000	4,000
MS ^{2/}	2,600	800	3,000
NM	45,000	32,000	50,000
NC ^{2/}	900	1,500	800
OK	3,000	200	3,000
SC ^{2/}	2,100	800	800
TX	40,000	20,000	55,000
NATIVE & SEEDLING			
AL	6,000	1,500	5,000
AR ^{2/}	2,300	250	3,040
FL ^{2/}	1,200	1,100	1,400
GA	23,000	5,000	10,000
KS ^{2/}	4,200	50	3,500
LA	10,000	13,000	14,000
MS ^{2/}	1,400	400	1,000
NC ^{2/}	600	1,000	500
OK	32,000	1,800	32,000
SC ^{2/}	1,400	300	300
TX	50,000	10,000	25,000
U.S. ALL PECANS	335.000	146.400	323.900

^{1/}Budded, grafted, or topworked varieties. ^{2/}Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.